MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

June 2023 – The June MNS meeting will be held Thursday, June 15, at 6 PM in the Mayfair Mall Community Room. Members are welcome to bring show and tell items. The program will be presented by local professional numismatist Andrew Kimmel.

President:	Justin Perrault	**Vice President:**	Jim Heinrich
Secretary:	James Kubley	**Treasurer:**	Chris Kantak
Sgt. at Arms:	Dave Herrewig	**Trustee '22-'24:**	Jordan Heller
Trustee '23-'25:	Dave Hunsicker	**Trustee '21-'23:**	Gary Bieringer
Librarian:	Justin Perrault	**Newsletter editor:**	Leon Saryan

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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are now held from 6 to 8 PM in the Mayfair Mall community room on the third Thursday of each month.

June Coin of the Month: For June, we offer a 2005 Silver Eagle FIRST STRIKE certified by PCGS MS69. Starting price for this great coin is just $50.

June 2023 MNS President's Message

By the time you read this Memorial Day Week-end 2023 will be behind us, and summer will unofficially be in full swing. Until the ANA show in Pittsburgh later this August, that means it should be a slow and laid back season for coin shows and making any additions to your collection, unless of course you are able to attend any flea markets, auctions, or other such estate sales.

As reported at the last meeting, we received interest from Ken Jackson in signing up for membership to receive the newsletter. He heard about our club through a numismatic magazine and collects general silver coins and 19th century US type coins. He lives in Madison, WI. We will consider and vote on his membership application at the June meeting.

Since we had the auction at last month's meeting without any show and tell, please feel free to bring something to the June meeting, particularly if you acquired something exciting at the Central States show.

Local coin dealer and numismatic personality Andrew Kimmel will be our speaker at the upcoming meeting. I expect he will be able to regale us with some entertaining tidbits about the current state of the hobby and various points of interest he encounters in his profession.

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996

MN$ 2023

Schedule

Monthly meetings for the calendar year will proceed as scheduled. Due to changes at Mayfair Mall, our meetings will run from 6:00-8:00 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 19:	General Business/Show & Tell
Feb 16:	CANCELLED-SNOW
March 16:	Tom C: Play Money Presentation
April 20:	Show & Tell-Non Numismatic
May 18:	Spring Auction
June 15:	Andy Kimmel Presentation
July 20:	General Business/Show & Tell
Aug 17:	General Business/Show & Tell
Sept 21:	Numismatic Trivia Game
Oct 19:	Autumn Auction
Nov 16:	Raffle Prize Drawing
Dec 21:	Christmas Party/Bingo/Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2023 are $10. Please pay Treasurer Chris K. at the next meeting, or they can be mailed to **MNS, PO Box 26886, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886.** Thanks to those who have paid. Those who have not paid will be removed from the club's mailing list.

Random Information

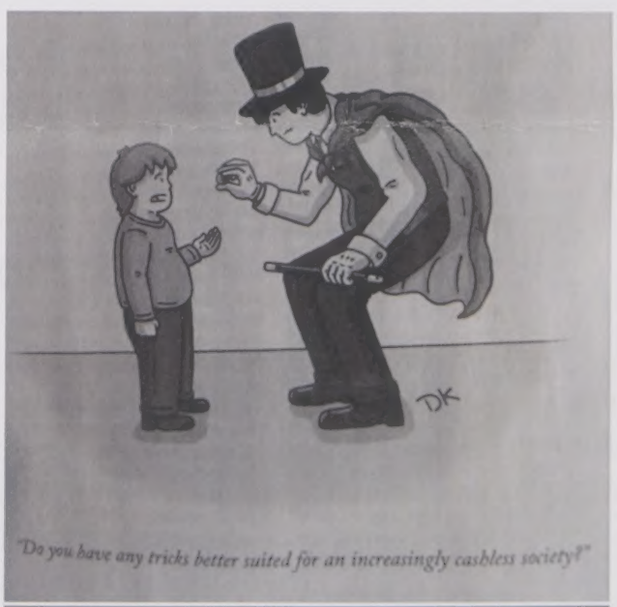
MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, and helpers to work at events. MNS will also reimburse refreshment expenses up to $60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make the club a success.

2023 Numismatic Events

Aug 8-12:	ANA World's Fair of Money David Lawrence Convention Center Pittsburgh, PA
Aug 13:	Beaver Dam Coin Show American Legion 300 Beichl Ave., 9-3 PM
Oct 1:	Nicolet Coin Club Show Stadium View Bar & Grill Green Bay, 9-3 PM
Oct 29:	Elgin, IL Coin Show Holiday Inn 495 Airport Rd, 9-3 PM
Nov 12:	MNS Coin Show, 9-4 PM Sheraton Hotel Brookfield

Refreshment Schedule

March 16:	Jordan H.
April 20:	Dave Hunsicker
May 18:	Don K.
June 15:	John B.
July 20:	OPEN
Aug 17:	Justin P.
Sept 21:	OPEN
Oct 19:	OPEN
Nov 16:	OPEN
Dec 21:	Christmas Party



"Do you have any tricks better suited for an increasingly cashless society?"

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Minutes

May 18, 2023

MNS President Justin Perrault called the 1037th meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. There were 22 members and one guest in attendance. The Coin of the Month, a 2007 silver state quarters proof set with five different state quarters, was won by Steve J.

Treasurer's Report: The reading of the treasurer's report was postponed for a month.

VP: Justin Perrault did the Vice President's report and noted that there are openings for bringing refreshments, and for providing programs.

Fantasy Numismatics: Leon S. raised the question what to use for pricing for fantasy numismatics at the end of the year, as *Coins* Magazine has ceased publication. After discussion, it was agreed that we will likely use *Numismatic News*.

New Member: Justin received an application from Ken Jackson of Madison who sent in a request and payment. The application will be considered in June.

New Business: Bruce B. announced that the Club will soon receive invoices of $287.50 and $19.99 which will cover the website for the next two years. Leon S. announced the death late last year of MNS member Ed Fyrnys.

Justin said that the list of Life Members is being updated; please let him know if you are a life member.

There was no Show and Tell because of the twice-yearly auction.

Auction: 36 lots were placed on auction. There was consistent bidding and almost all items offered were sold. Thanks to auctioneer Dave H., and to Gary B. and Chris K who assisted.

Minutes: The minutes for April 2023, were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm by President Justin Perrault.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Herrewig

NEWS

Greater Milwaukee Coin is Reopening

Greater Milwaukee Coin store has reopened after briefly closing for the retirement of Russ and Ken Konig. It reopened in the beginning of March, 2023, and remains at the same location, 4040 N. Calhoun Rd. in Brookfield. The store has two co-owners, Ben Ratskoff and Dale Winter. Ben, who previously worked at Costa's Coins in Libertyville, IL, is running the Brookfield location. Winter, of Dubuque, Iowa, operates two coin stores in Dubuque, Silver & Gold Exchange and The Coin Shop. Store hours are Monday-Friday 10AM to 5PM and Saturday 10AM to 2PM. It will continue to be a full-service coin store, buying and selling gold and silver bullion, U.S. coins and currency, as well as jewelry and sterling flatware. Russ and Ken have worked closely with them over the years. We wish them the best of luck at this established location. The Greater Milwaukee store in Waukesha will not reopen.—Tom Casper

Edward Fyrnys (1943-2022)

We are sad to report the death of MNS member Edward Fyrnys, who passed away on April 10, 2022 at the age of 79. He was a regular attendee at our club meetings for several years. He was an industrial hygienist and enjoyed several hobbies, including gardening and rock collecting as well as numismatics. He left behind many relatives and friends. RIP, Ed.

Jeffrey Paunicka (1954-2023)

Professional numismatist Jeffrey Paunicka, a resident of Indiana, passed away on May 18. He was not a member of MNS, but was one of the speakers at an MNS banquet a few years ago. He was a well-known dealer and a member of several numismatic organizations, including ANA, CSNS, and the Chicago Coin Club. He is survived by his wife, children, and several relatives. Justin, our prez, says that he was an "all-around great guy." May he rest in peace.

Queen Cleopatra VII

by David Vagi CSNS LM 656

For centuries, numismatists have remarked on her realistic and often unflattering portraits on ancient coinage.

Born in 51 B.C., Cleopatra VII, the last Greek ruler of Egypt, struggled mightily to preserve her nation against the conquering Romans. Though she ultimately failed, it wasn't for lack of trying. Indeed, it's doubtful that anyone else in her place could have opposed Rome's advances for long.

In her efforts, Cleopatra offered her affections to two noble Romans: Julius Caesar in the mid-40s B.C. and Marc Antony, who she married in 37 B.C. Though these unions temporarily spared Egypt from Roman domination, they merely delayed the inevitable.

Egypt's fate was sealed at the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C., when Caesar's great-nephew Octavian defeated the combined forces of Cleopatra and her husband, Antony. Nearly a year later, after the latter two committed suicide in August of 30 B.C., Octavian took possession of Egypt, which remained in Roman and Byzantine hands for nearly seven centuries.

▲ **Though the portrait and inscription suggest this tetradrachm was issued for a king named Ptolemy, it actually was struck for Cleopatra VII in 44/3 B.C.**

Like all rulers of the Ptolemaic dynasty in Egypt, Cleopatra issued a large quantity of coins. Her earliest issues merely continued a type long familiar in her realm: *tetradrachms* bearing the portrait of the founding king, Ptolemy I, opposite an eagle upon a thunderbolt.

▲ **This Egyptian bronze, valued at 40 drachmai, bears a distinctive portrait of Cleopatra VII. The reverse shows an eagle within an inscription bearing her name and title.**

Ptolemy I was a worthy subject for these coins, for he had established the Ptolemaic (Lagid) dynasty in 323 B.C., soon after the death of his master, Alexander III ("the Great"). Cleopatra's tetradrachms do not carry her name or portrait, but are attributed to her based on the dates they carry and the inclusion of a distinctive headdress of Isis at the eagle's feet.

Cleopatra's later coins bear her portrait. For centuries, numismatists have remarked on her likeness, which often is so realistic that it is far from flattering. This offers us some genuine insight into the character of this remarkable queen, for she had the authority to command engravers to create any likeness she desired.

The first portrait coin shown is a bronze struck for local circulation. The reverse shows an eagle (as on the tetradrachms), to the left of which appears the Greek letter *mu* (μ), which assigns the coin a value of 40 *drachmai*. Cleopatra's royal inscription encircles the design.

▲ **This silver denarius features the portraits of Cleopatra VII and Marc Antony. Though it essentially is a Roman coin meant for broad circulation, the obverse features the Egyptian queen's portrait.**

▲ **The meeting of Anthony and Cleopatra was captured in this 1885 oil painting by Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema.**

▲ **The Greek city of Patrae struck bronzes for Cleopatra while she and Marc Antony prepared for war against Julius Caesar's great-nephew and heir, Octavian.**

Next is a silver *denarius* with portraits of Cleopatra and Marc Antony. Unlike her Egyptian tetradrachms and bronzes, this coin was meant for regional and international circulation. It pairs a bold and veristic image of Cleopatra with a grimacing, almost comical, portrait of Antony.

The final coin illustrated is a bronze from the port city of Patrae. It circulated locally in Greece while she and Antony prepared for war against Octavian. On this piece, the image of Cleopatra is uncharacteristically youthful, a rendering perhaps endorsed by Greek officials anxious to flatter the powerful Egyptian queen.

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come readily to mind – to such leading-edge facilities as those in South Africa, Singapore, and in Helsinki, Finland.

Here at home, I've visited every active U.S. Mint facility, most on multiple occasions – including the third Philadelphia Mint (1901-1966), and the once-operational satellite facility of today's San Francisco Mint – even enjoying the unusual privilege of visiting the vaults at the Fort Knox gold bullion depository. There have also been visits to the abandoned U.S. Mint facilities in Charlotte, North Carolina; Dahlonega, Ga.; and New Orleans, La. I've even on a couple occasions visited the site of the authorized but never completed The Dalles Mint in Oregon, on which construction was initiated but never completed, the base structure of which still stands.

Up in Canada I've had the opportunity to visit the trio of Canadian government minting facilities: the Ottawa Mint – I'll never forget the experience of being conducted on a mid-'60s tour of the coining floor by then-master Norval Parker, who at one of the presses grabbed a coffee can laden with mint errors that he dumped in my hands for examination – its satellite across the Ottawa River in Hull, Quebec, and its branch facility in Winnipeg. The occasion has never presented itself, regrettably, to allow me to visit the mint in Mexico City, the most historic minting site in the Western Hemisphere. On the other hand, some years ago I did enjoy the opportunity for an inside visit to the St. Petersburgh Mint in Russia.

Here at home, how many conventions/shows have I attended over the past 60 years? Over a thousand, undoubtedly. Maybe two-thousand, possibly approaching that number. There were many years, particularly back in the '80s, '90s and 2000s, when I found myself on the road, flying or behind the wheel of the trusty Olds or the venerable Town Car, attending hobby community events on upwards of 30 weekends a year. There were even the odd occasions that found me taking in two events on a given weekend. One that readily comes to mind was my 1984 Thanksgiving weekend attendance at Michigan State in Detroit, an outing that was split up with flights to and from a cameo PAN convention appearance in Pittsburgh. Whew!

Not infrequently, my weekend travels to multi-day state or regional events were truncated, with Saturday departures, being topped off with Sunday outings to attend local shows here in Wisconsin. A sprinkling of my hobby community attendances were, as well, in our other hobby interest fields. Then, there were times when in-week business travels, or for exposures to those other interest areas, allowed me to close the week out with attendance at an inviting coin event that was coming off in proximity, or was picked up along the way, on my travels back to Iola.

Sometimes my travel commitments/desires became so compacted, I recall of having felt the sensation of literally being on a treadmill. There were the odd occasions when it almost seemed that perhaps the only good reason for having returned to Iola between trips had been to lay in a fresh supply of shirts, socks and handkerchiefs. I could do so with the comfortable knowledge that my product and management responsibilities were being ably dispatched by staff in my absence.

The upshot of all the resulting interactions contributed to building the integrity of *Numismatic News*, Krause Publications and our varied other hobby community products, where our collector and dealer audiences were concerned.

A few years ago, I began to tune down my active travels in deference to aging and family considerations. Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit in early 2020. After attending FUN and the NYINC, along with the 60th annual RRVCC show in Fargo, during the month of January, followed by the 57th annual International Coin Club of El Paso show and the 37th annual Wisconsin Coin Expos event in Oshkosh, as well as the ANA's National Money Show in Atlanta, during the month of February, my event travels for the year came to an effective halt. The next months found me venturing forth only to attend two physical meetings of local clubs through the late spring and summer, and learning what Zoom is all about – and undertake to cope with it.

My first attendance at a post-pandemic coin show came over a year later, in late April 2021, when I drove over to Green Bay to attend the annual spring show of the Nicolet Coin Club. Thereafter, I

Token Collectors Page

DR. GEORGE FULD, Editor

The Exonumist Page succeeded the Token Collectors Page, which had been appearing under the sanction of Dr. George Fuld as editor.

An exterior retirement office I've occupied – Eclectic Pursuits – in downtown Iola, Wis., since my 2003 separation from Krause Publications.

drove to the Madison Coin Club's spring show, flew to the TNA convention, drove to the ANA and ILNA conventions, along with MCC's fall show, then flew to the Thanksgiving weekend convention of the MSNS. That's seven events, along with a May drive out to Okoboji to attend a Higgins board meeting and flying out to Colorado Springs in November to participate in the ANA's post-election "On-Boarding" session ... and attendance at six club meetings around the state.

Getting back into the swing of things in 2022, I flew to four conventions: FUN, NYINC, ANA National Money Show in Colorado Springs, and MSNS in Warren, while driving to a dozen others including Central States, PAN in Pittsburgh, RCNA in Ottawa, ANA in Rosemont, SCNA in Greenville, and MSNS in Warren, along with seven in-state local club shows at Oshkosh, Madison, Appleton, Green Bay, Wausau and two in Milwaukee. A Higgins board meeting was again taken in, as were another six club meetings.

This new year is off to a good start. I've already attended the NYINC, the RRVCC in Fargo, the Oshkosh show, the National Money Show in Phoenix and the Fox Valley Coin Club show in Appleton. The count will probably climb to around 15 before the year is out, including flying to Halifax, Pittsburgh, Albuquerque and Detroit, and seven drivable destinations: Wausau, CSNS in Schaumburg, ILNA in Tinley Park and probably twice each to both Green Bay and Milwaukee. There'll also be a drive out to Okoboji for a Higgins meeting in July, and at least an additional handful of local coin club meeting outings.

My old habit of being on the road attending an appealing venue a couple dozen or so times a year is now a thing of the past, a habit that had been trending downward for some time, a trend the pandemic interruption has served to accelerate, one that will likely continue dropping incrementally as time passes.

Parallel to my travels over the years have been my organizational involvements. As a TAMS founder, I have always remained involved in the activities of that organization. While I was not a founder of Numismatists of Wisconsin, my involvement in the activities of that organization date back to its early years. And, of course, I've also enjoyed extended tenures on the American Numismatic Society Council and the ANA Board.

Likewise, my unofficial commitments to the organizational activities of the Michigan State Numismatic Society, of which I believe I am the only surviving charter (1956) member, and the Central States Numismatic Society, of which I am today possibly the longest-tenured member. Then there's the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association, founded in 1950, where I believe I'm exceeded in tenure by less than a handful of members. I have pushed for ongoing ANA interaction with it, Canadian participation having been one of the strengths of the ANA through its first 60 years.

My travels and organizational involvements over the past 60 years have been both enjoyable and fulfilling, but also rewarding and beneficial personally. These unbelievable opportunities have imbued me with a depth of knowledge where our hobby community is concerned that I could not possibly have otherwise garnered. The sum of the exposures has been instructive beyond belief. Along the way I've sought to have readers join in on the outings so they might share the joys – and some of the challenges – of immersion in our collecting community.

My intention is that I will continue doing so as this enjoyable ride continues, good health and good fortune permitting, likely with declining frequency. Also, you're still invited to stop by Iola for a visit and enjoy a slice of pie and coffee on me at the Crystal Café.

Stay tuned. Playing upon Chet's greeting to me 60 years ago: Until next time ... I'm Cliff! ◆